

Status of claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing metal salts of radical-polymerizable compounds with a reduced amount of aqueous components by subjecting an aqueous solution of a material selected from the group consisting essentially of an alkali-metal salt, alkali earth-metal salt, ~~or~~ and a zinc salt of a radical-polymerizable compound (A) selected from the group consisting of a compound represented by the following general formula(1): $R^1-CH=CR^2-COOH$ (wherein R^1 designates a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group or a phenyl group, and R^2 designates a methyl group or a hydrogen atom), a compound represented by the following general formula (2): $R^1-CH=CR^2-R^3-COOH$ (wherein R^1 and R^2 are the same as defined above, and R^3 designates a phenylene group), a compound represented by the following general formula (3): $R^1-CH=CR^2-SO_3H$ (wherein R^1 and R^2 are the same as defined above, and a compound of the following general formula (4): $R^1-CH=CR^2-R^3-SO_3H$ (wherein R^1 , R^2 , and R^3 are the same as defined above), to heating under a reduced pressure in the presence of (B) an aqueous polymerization inhibitor for removal of aqueous components by distillation from aforementioned compounds (A).
2. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing metal salts of radical-polymerizable compounds with reduced amount of aqueous components by subjecting an aqueous solution of an alkali-metal salt, alkali earth-metal salt, or a zinc salt of a radical-polymerizable compound (A) selected from the group consisting of a compound represented by the following general formula (1): $R^1-CH=CR^2-COOH$ (wherein R^1 designates a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or a phenyl group, and R^2 designates a methyl group or a hydrogen atom), a

compound represented by the following general formula (2): $R^1\text{-CH=CR}^2\text{-R}^3\text{-COOH}$ (wherein R^1 and R^2 are the same as defined above, and R^3 designates a phenylene group), a compound represented by the following general formula (3): $R^1\text{-CH=CR}^2\text{-SO}_3\text{H}$ (wherein R^1 and R^2 are the same as defined above), and a compound of the following general formula (4): $R^1\text{-CH=CR}^2\text{-R}^3\text{-SO}_3\text{H}$ (where R^1 , R^2 , and R^3 are the same as defined above) to heating under a reduced pressure in the presence of (B) an aqueous polymerization inhibitor for removal of aqueous components from aforementioned compounds (A) by distillation, and then adding an organic solvent (D) for azeotropic dehydration.

3. (Canceled) The method according to Claims 1 or 2, wherein said component (B) is L-ascorbic acid.
4. (Canceled) The method according to Claims 1 or 2, wherein said component (B) is a hydrochloric salt of N-phenylhydroxylamine.
5. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 2, wherein said component (D) is an organic solvent selected from the group consisting essentially of toluene, xylene, heptane, and octane.
6. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claims 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein the content of aqueous components in the metal salts of the radical-polymerizable compounds with a reduced amount of aqueous components does not exceed 5 wt. %.
7. (Original) The method according to Claim 6, wherein the content of aqueous

components in the metal salts of the radical-polymerizable compounds with a reduced amount of aqueous components is within the range of 0 to 0.5 wt.%.

8. (New) The method according to Claim 2, wherein the content of aqueous components in the metal salts of the radical-polymerizable compounds with a reduced amount of aqueous components does not exceed 5 wt.%.
9. (New) The method according to Claim 8, wherein the content of aqueous components in the metal salts of the radical-polymerizable compounds with a reduced amount of aqueous components is within the range of 0 to 0.5 wt.%.